

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 IGA-02 L-03 /055 W

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P 210837Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7469

UNCLAS DACCA 7302

PASS USDA AND AID/ASIA/BIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, BD OPERATIONAL

SUBJ: PL 480, TITLE I INFORMATION

REF: A DACCA 7146; B STATE 278197; C STATE 277932; D DACCA 6375

1. PENDING FINAL WASHINGTON APPROVAL TO SIGN FY 1978 PL 480, TITLE I AGREEMENT, AND AS REQUIRED IN REFTEL B. UNDER PARAGRAPH 7. B ITEMS (1) THROUGH (5) WE PROVIDED LATEST OPERATIONAL REPORTING INFORMATION FOR WHEAT AND COTTON TO BE INCLUDED IN FIRST TRANCHE OF THE AGREEMENT.

2. TYPE AND GRADE OF COMMODITY TO BE PURCHASED. THE BDG OFFICIALS PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION PERTAINING TO PURCHASES OF 100,000 MT OF WHEAT AND 35,000 BALES OF COTTON (500 LBS. EACH) IN ACCORDANCE WITH OFFICIAL U.S. STANDARDS:

A. WHEAT: U.S. WHEAT; GRADE U.S. NO. 2 OR BETTER; HARD RED SPRING/ HARD RED WINTER; BROKEN KERNELS NTE 5 PERCENT; FOREIGN MATTER OF SMALL DEGREE; IMMATURE GRAINS UP TO 5 PERCENT; MOISTURE CONTENT NTE 14 PERCENT; DAMAGED AND INFESTED GRAINS NIL.

B. COTTON: OF THE TOTAL QUANTITY TO BE PURCHASED AND AS RECOMMENDED REFTEL C. FOLLOWING BREAKDOWN BY QUANTITIES AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE DESIRED BY BTMC:

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QUANTITY -	10,000 BALES	20,000 BALES	5,000 BALES
GRADE -	LOW MIDDLING	STRICT LOW MIDDLING	MIDDLING
STAPLE -	7/8" TO 31/32"	1" TO 1-1/16"	1-1/16" TO 1 1/4"
"			
MICRONAIRE -	3.5 (MIN) NCL	3.5 (MIN) NCL	3.5 (MIN) NCL
	TO	TO	TO

4.9 (MAX) NCL 4.5 (MAX) NCL 4.5 (MAX) NCL
PRESSLEY - 78,000 PSI MIN. 80,000 PSI MIN. 90,000 PSI MIN.
TO TO
80,000 PSI MIN. 82,000 PSI MIN. AND ABOVE

3. PROPOSED CONTRACTING/DELIVERY SCHEDULE

- A. WHEAT: 50,000 TONS IN APRIL AND 50,000 TONS IN MAY 1978.
- B. COTTON: IN FEBRUARY OR 1ST WEEK OF MARCH 1978.

4. BDG'S CAPABILITY TO RECEIVE, STORE AND DISTRIBUTE COMMODITIES

- A. WHEAT: THE MISSION HAS DETERMINED THAT THE BDG HAS ADEQUATE CAPABILITY AND STORAGE FACILITIES TO RECEIVE THE 100,000 TONS OF PL 480,

TITLE I WHEAT AND THAT SUCH ARRIVALS WILL NOT HAVE ANY SUBSTANTIAL DISINCENTIVE EFFECT ON DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION EVEN IN VIEW OF A VERY GOOD AMAN HARVEST THIS IS BASED ON DETERMINATIONS THAT NO PL 480, TITLE I SHIPMENTS MAY ARRIVE IN BANGLADESH PRIOR APRIL 1978 AND ON LATEST FOODGRAIN FORECASTS OF MONTHLY OPENING STOCKS, DOMESTIC PROCUREMENT, IMPORTS, OFFTAKES, AND CLOSING STOCKS DETAILED IN REFTEL A.

- B. COTTON: WITH CONTRACTING DATE TO BEGIN IN FEBRUARY OR NEARLY MARCH AND ARRIVALS AT EARLIEST NOT EXPECTED UNTIL END MARCH, APRIL 1, 1978 STOCKS WILL BE VERY LOW AND ARE ESTIMATED AT AROUND 20,000 UNCLASSIFIED

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TO 40,000 BALES. EVEN WITH ADDITIONAL ARRIVALS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE AT 10,000 TO 15,000 BALES PER MONTH BEGINNING APRIL UNDER CURRENT/ CONSUMPTION/PROCUREMENT PLANS, STOCKS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO EXCEED 60,000 BALES DURING ANY ONE MONTH OF THE TOTAL USABLE STORAGE CAPACITY OF MORE THAN 100,000 BALES. IN VIEW OF NEEDS, PRIORITIES GIVEN TO TEXTILE SECTOR, AND PAST PERFORMANCE OF QUICK PORT CLEARANCES BY BTMC, THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT PL 480, TITLE I COTTON WOULD BE SUBJECT TO DELAYS IN OFFLOADING AND TRANSPORTING TO STORAGE. REGARDING FURTHER DETAILS PERTAINING TO STORAGE AND DISINCENTIVES TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ON COTTON ARRIVALS, REFER TO REFTEL D.

- 5. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF BANKS. THE BDG OFFICIALS ADVISED THE MISSION THAT NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF BANKS, BOTH U.S. AND FOREIGN, WHICH WILL BE HANDLING FINANCING OPERATIONS WILL BE PROVIDED BY BANGLADESH MISSION IN WASHINGTON.

- 6. TRANSFERS OF FUNDS TO COVER OCEAN FREIGHT COSTS. THE MISSION HAS BEEN ASSURED THAT BDG HAS SUFFICIENT FUNDS AND IS PREPARED TO MAKE IMMEDIATE TRANSFERS OF FUNDS TO COVER OCEAN FREIGHT COST. ALSO, THAT APPROPRIATE MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT OPERABLE LETTERS OF CREDIT FOR BOTH COMMODITY AND FREIGHT WILL BE

OPENED AND CONFIRMED BY DESIGNATED U.S. BANKS IMMEDIATELY AFTER
CONTRACTING UNDER EACH PURCHASE AUTHORIZATION IS CONCLUDED.
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
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